

## Senate Bill 520

By: Senators Johnson of the 1st, Kemp of the 46th, Douglas of the 17th and Hill of the 32nd

**AS PASSED**

**AN ACT**

To amend Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia State Patrol, so as to authorize the Board of Public Safety to provide a badge and duty weapon to sworn officers as compensation under certain circumstances; to authorize the commissioner to provide certain uniforms and equipment to all sworn members of the Department of Public Safety; to change certain provisions relating to the provision of uniforms and equipment to members of the Uniform Division and the retention of weapons and badges upon retirement of certain members; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

**SECTION 1.**

Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia State Patrol, is amended by striking subsection (c) of Code Section 35-2-42, relating to compensation of members of the Uniform Division, communications officers, recruits, and cadets, and inserting a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) The board shall be authorized to pay to sworn members of the Department of Public Safety additional compensation to be paid upon retirement in the form of the badge and the duty weapon issued by the department to such member."

**SECTION 2.**

Said article is further amended by striking Code Section 35-2-49, relating to the provision of uniforms and equipment to members of the Uniform Division and radio operators and retention of weapons and badges upon retirement, in its entirety and inserting a new Code Section 35-2-49 to read as follows:

"35-2-49.

The commissioner shall, within the limit of the appropriation, provide the sworn members of the Department of Public Safety with proper uniforms, suitable to the season, and also with emergency and first-aid outfits, weapons, motor vehicles with radio equipment, and all other necessary supplies and equipment for the purpose of carrying out this article, the same to remain the property of the state; provided, however, that after a sworn member has accumulated 15 years of service with the Department of Public Safety, including prior service with the Department of Motor Vehicle Safety, Georgia Public Service Commission, Georgia Department of Transportation, or Georgia Building Authority, upon leaving the department under honorable conditions, or upon leaving the department as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty regardless of the number of years of service, such member shall be entitled, as part of his or her compensation, to retain his or her weapon and badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the commissioner. The commissioner shall also, within the limit of the appropriation, provide proper uniforms and equipment to radio operators. After a radio operator has accumulated 15 years of service with the department, including prior service with the Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety, Georgia Public Service Commission, Georgia Department of Transportation, or Georgia Building Authority, upon leaving the department under honorable conditions, such radio operator shall be entitled, as part of his or her compensation, to retain his or her badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the commissioner."

### **SECTION 3.**

This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

### **SECTION 4.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.